

THE FALCON FLYER

May 17, 2010



Dear Floral Street Families,

Our academic year comes to a close one month from tomorrow (we feel like we're safely past the possibility of a snow day so that we can be more definitive about that last day). This means it is not too early to begin talking about **summer reading**. The rhythm of the school year has some advantages, and summer vacation is a valuable time for students to relax and play and a valuable time for teachers to reflect and plan (and, yes, to relax and play).

One big disadvantage to this academic calendar, though, is the disruption of the momentum that students have built over the course of ten months of hard work. **Reading, in particular, builds upon connected experiences and requires repeated exposure and practice in order to build and solidify skills.** Interrupting schooling for ten weeks certainly isn't conducive to this! The good news is that we can help students avoid a loss of momentum by continuing to have them read every day (or almost every day!) during the summer. Parents obviously play the most critical role in this, but there are a number of strategies and resources available to assist you – we'll describe a few of these over the coming weeks.

The first is that our summer reading list this year will be given with specific levels of books suggested just for your child's independent reading level. Reading at the correct level of difficulty is critical to the process described above, and we think this will be a huge help to parents and families. Thank you to our Elementary Curriculum Coordinator Gary Chalmers and Instructional Coaches Shelley Hoey, Susan Conley, and Lisa Papazian for this effort!

On an unrelated note, we hope you have a chance to come to Floral Street soon and see the new school sign that greets you on the entry driveway. Our old one began to fall apart quickly a couple of years back, and we were in desperate need of a new one. **We cannot thank enough the three members of the Shrewsbury community who made this possible: Robert Terkanian of Hairlines, Inc, a Paul Mitchell Products Distributor, for his personal donation; and Bob Jacques and Fred Confalone, who made possible a donation from Wheelabrator Millbury.**

Sincerely,

Todd Curtis
Principal
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Lisa McCubrey
Assistant Principal
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FLORAL STREET NOTICES:

Floral Goes Green

This Friday is our annual *Floral Goes Green* event, where students have a special opportunity to explore different aspects of **sustainability** in our world and what they can do to make a difference for the environment. **Please note that there will not be an evening portion of the event this year.** As always, thank you to Mrs. Kara Franking for her leadership of this effort.

Moving? Missing the last day?

If your family is planning on moving after the end of the school year, please let the main office know as soon as possible so that we can ensure a smooth transition. Also, if your child will miss the last day of school for any reason, please let the office know in advance so that we can arrange for report cards, etc. Thank you!

OTHER DISTRICT NOTICES:

Bus Pass Registration

Registration for bus passes for the 2010-2011 school year is open. The fee structure for those in grades K-6 living less than two miles from school and all in grades 7-12 remains the same as this past year, at \$250 per student with a \$500 family cap. All students who will ride the bus next year, whether or not a fee is required, must be registered online through our web site by the **June 1 deadline** in order to avoid a \$50 late fee per student (\$100 family cap). For those who must pay a bus fee, the payment must also be made by the June 1 deadline. Please go to the Shrewsbury Public Schools website at <http://schools.shrewsbury-ma.gov/> and click on 2010-2011 Bus Pass Registration for more detailed information and to register your child. This year, all registrations and payments must be made online.

If you have questions about bus pass registration, see our Frequently Asked Questions document at http://schools.shrewsbury-ma.gov/egov/docs/1272968805_691802.pdf or you may send an inquiry to transportation@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us.

Sherwood Information Night

Sherwood Middle School will be hosting information nights for incoming fifth grade students and parents next week.

Thursday, May 27th *SMS Parent and Student Information Night* for incoming fifth grade students (5:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.) from Floral Street School and Paton School. Students and parents will participate in self - guided tours prior to attending an informational session in the gymnasium at 6:30 p.m.

Parents in the Beal, Morgan, and Ross classes only may attend the previous evening, Wednesday the 26th, as the 27th conflicts with the spring chorus concert. The times and program are the same.

Celebration in the Garden Fundraiser

On Saturday, June 12th, at 6:30pm, the 2nd annual fundraiser "A Celebration in the Garden" will be held to benefit Shrewsbury Public Schools. All proceeds raised from this event - hosted by local citizens - will be dispersed evenly to all the schools to purchase textbooks and instructional materials and to support innovative programs and activities. Every school benefits!!! The event will be held this year at the historic Pease Tavern, 32 Main Circle, and will feature a garden venue, delicious food from Struck Catering, a fine wine and beer sampling provided by Renaissance Wine and Spirits, live Irish music "Mulligan's Fancy", and both silent and live auctions. The evening will be a relaxing, fun-filled event and attendees will enjoy an early summer evening in the company of friends and neighbors.

Numerous local business sponsors are helping underwrite this event and include Dunkin Donuts, Danielson's Flowers, and Ski Ward. Many significant auction items have been donated, including a family summer membership at Shrewsbury Health and Racquet Club, 1/2 day

tuition on full day Kindergarten for new student at Lilliput Early Childhood Center, a day's worth of labor by Goodfellas and Beaton Construction Companies, and this year the School Committee will be live auctioned for 2 hours work to the highest bidder, following last year's auction of the Board of Selectmen.

The cost is \$50 per ticket and the RSVP date is May 28th. Please make checks payable to the Shrewsbury Schools Betterment Fund and mail to the attention of Hannah Kane, 32 Main Circle, Shrewsbury MA 01545. For more information, please contact: Hannah Kane at hkane@townisp.com or Melanie Petrucci at rmpetrucci@townisp.com.

DI Fundraiser

Please see a notice attached with this Falcon Flyer email that details an upcoming fundraiser for Shrewsbury's fourth grade Destination Imagination team, who will be traveling to the Global Competition in Tennessee next week!

The Elementary Lunch Menu can be found at any time at:

<http://schools.shrewsbury-ma.gov/departments/division.php?fDD=20-17>

Important Dates:

May 21	Floral Goes Green – <i>A daytime <u>only</u> event this year</i>
May 25, 26, 27	Spring Chorus Concerts
	May 25: <i>Bisceglia, Largess, Spangenberg</i>
	May 26: <i>Borraccino, Edgren, Richard</i>
	May 27: <i>Beal, Morgan, Ross</i>
June 1 & 3	Field Days
	June 1: Grades 1 & 2
	June 3: Grades 3 & 4
June 16	Fourth Grade Celebration
June 17	Open House for <u>new</u> students
June 18	Last day of school – half day

MCAS Dates:

May 18 th & 19 th	Math – 4 th Grade
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Please check the FSS website for other important dates and the most recent updates!